

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of facilitating handover from an active network with which User Equipment is in communication to another network, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a list of available other networks to said User Equipment via the active network;

in the User Equipment, selecting among the available networks based on preference information and signaling to said active network at least one preferred other network; and

providing neighbor cell information for the at least one preferred other network to said User Equipment via the active network.

2. Canceled

3. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating handover from an active network with which user equipment is in communication to another network, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting to the user equipment a first list having a plurality of unique network identifiers,

comparing the first list with a second list which includes at least one unique network identifier from the plurality of unique network identifiers and is internally stored in the user equipment for selectively communicating with at least one of a plurality of networks, the at least one network identifier in the second list is an identifier of a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used, the comparison being performed by the user equipment;

receiving from user equipment communicating via the active network an indication of at least one preferred other network selected from the plurality of networks in the comparing step; and

in response thereto, providing to the user equipment via the active network neighbor cell information for the at least one preferred other network.

4. Canceled

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3 further comprising a step of incrementally adding to or subtracting from the list of available networks.

6. (Withdrawn) A method of facilitating handover from an active network with which User Equipment is in communication to another network, the method comprising:

providing to User Equipment communicating via the active network a list of available other networks; and

sending a message to the User Equipment containing information for incrementally adding to or subtracting from the list of available networks.

7. (Withdrawn) A method of operating an active network to facilitate handover to another network comprising:

maintaining a connection via the active network with a User Equipment; and

a step of providing to the User Equipment communicating via the active network a message containing information for incrementally adding to or subtracting from a stored list of available networks.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of operating user equipment ~~User Equipment~~ capable of handover between an active network and another network comprising:

receiving a first list having a plurality of unique network identifiers;

storing a preference for a network in a second list having at least one unique network identifier from the plurality of unique network identifiers and is internally stored in the user equipment ~~User Equipment~~, at least one network in the second list is a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used;

comparing the received first list with the second list for selectively communicating with at least one of a plurality of networks; and

a step of incrementally adding to or subtracting from a stored list of available networks based on information supplied by the active network with which the user equipment ~~User Equipment~~ is in communication.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising: a step of signaling to the active network with which the user equipment is in communication the preferred other network for handover.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein said preferred other network is selected by the user equipment from a list of available networks supplied by the network.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of operating an active network with which User Equipment is in communication comprising:

maintaining a connection via the active network with a User Equipment; and

a step of sending neighbor cell information to User Equipment based on network preferences communicated by the User Equipment.

12. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 11 comprising a step of sending mutually different neighbor cell information to mutually different User Equipments based on mutually different network preferences.

13. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the preferred other network is selected based on information stored in the User Equipment, preferably in a SIM card.

14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the active network is a UMTS network and the other network is selected from available GSM networks.

15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the active network is provided by an active network provider and the other network is selected from networks provided by other network providers.

16. (Currently Amended) User equipment for a mobile communications system capable of handover from an active network with which user equipment is in communication to another network comprising:

means for receiving a first list from the active network, the first list having a plurality of unique network identifiers;

means for storing a second list of available other networks supplied by the active network, at least one network listed in the second list is a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used;

means for comparing the received first list with the second list which includes at least one unique network identifier from the plurality of unique network identifiers for selectively communicating with at least one of a plurality of networks; and

means for transmitting from the user equipment an indication of a preference for a network.

17. (Previously Presented) User equipment according to claim 16, further comprising means for updating the stored list of available other networks based on information supplied by the active network.

18. (Currently Amended) User equipment for a mobile communications system capable of handover from an active network with which user equipment is in communication to another network comprising:

means for receiving a first list from the active network, the first list having a plurality of unique network identifiers;

means for storing a second list of available other networks supplied by the active network, at least one network listed in the second list is a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used;

means for comparing the received first list with the second list which includes at least one unique network identifier from the plurality of unique network identifiers for selectively communicating with at least one of a plurality of networks;

means for updating the second list of available other networks based on information supplied by the active network; and

means for transmitting from the user equipment an indication of a preference for a network.

19. Canceled

20. (Previously Presented) User equipment according to claim 18, further comprising means for storing network preference information.

21. (Previously Presented) User equipment according to claim 16, wherein the active network is a UMTS network and the other network is a GSM network, having means for communicating over both networks.

22. Canceled

23. (Withdrawn) A mobile communications network or component thereof comprising:

communicator configured to communicate to User Equipment communicating with the network a list of available other networks; and

means for sending a message to the User Equipment containing information for incrementally adding to or subtracting from the list of available networks.

24. (Withdrawn) A mobile communications network or component thereof including:

means for maintaining a connection via the active network with a User Equipment; and

means for sending a message to the User Equipment containing information for incrementally adding to or subtracting from a list of available networks stored in the User Equipment.

25. (Currently Amended) A mobile communications network or component thereof including:

means for receiving by a user equipment a first list including a plurality of unique network identifiers;

means for comparing by the user equipment the received first list with a second list which includes at least one unique network identifier from the plurality of unique network identifiers and is internally stored in the user equipment, the at least one network identifier in the second list is an identifier of a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used;

means for receiving from user equipment communicating with the network an indication of a preferred other network; and

means for supplying neighboring cell information for the preferred other network based on the indication.

26. (Withdrawn) A mobile communications network or component thereof including:

maintaining a connection via the active network with a User Equipment; and

means for sending neighbor cell information to the User Equipment based on network preferences communicated by the User Equipment.

27. (Withdrawn) A mobile communications network or component thereof according to claim 26 arranged to send mutually different neighbor cell information to mutually different User Equipments based on mutually different network preferences.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of using user equipment for a mobile communication system comprising:

receiving a first list including a plurality of network identifiers; and

comparing the received first list with a second list which includes at least one network identifier and is stored in the user equipment, the at least one network identifier in the second list is an identifier of a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used.

29. (Currently Amended) User equipment for a mobile communication system comprising:

means for receiving a first list including a plurality of network identifiers; and

means for comparing the received first list with a second list which includes at least one network identifier and is stored in the user equipment, the at least one network identifier in the second list is an identifier of a network that is never ~~not~~ to be used.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)